

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENING 00989 01 OF 03 060630Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4180
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, PARM, MOPS, ECOM, ECIM, US, UR
CH, GW, EG, ET
SUBJ: ZNANIYE ROUNDUP ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE

1. SUMMARY. ZNANIYE LECTURER (CANDIDATE FOR HISTORICAL SCIENCES, U.V. PETROVSKIY) TOLD PACKED HOUSE OF THE USUAL MID- AND LOWER-LEVEL PARTY FUNCTIONARIES ATTENDING SUNDAY (APRIL 2) ROUNDUP ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE THAT "FIRST TASK" SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY IS STRENGTHENING WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. DETENTE WAS CHARACTERIZED BIT LOWER AS "PRIMARY TASK." LECTURER WAS MORE CRITICAL OF PRESIDENT CARTER THAN IN RECENT PAST, ASSURED AUDIENCE THAT SOVIETS WOULD NOT GIVE IN TO U.S. PRESSURES AND SIGN SALT AGREEMENT WHICH UNEQUAL OR HARMFUL TO SOVIET SECURITY INTERESTS AND SAID SOVIETS WOULD GO

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PAGE 02 LENING 00989 01 OF 03 060630Z

AHEAD WITH NEUTRON BOMB IF U.S. DID. BELGRADE CONFERENCE CONTINUES TO BE DESCRIBED AS USSR "VICTORY" OVER INTRAN-SIGENT, "ONE ISSUE" U.S. APPROACH. AUDIENCE APPARENTLY BEING PREPARED FOR LONGER HAUL IN ETHIOPIA AS LECTURER STRESSED THAT, DESPITE SOMALIA WITHDRAWAL, SERIOUS PROBLEMS REMAIN. BLAME FOR MIDEAST "WORSENING", INCLUDING ISRAELI INVASION OF LEBANON, LAID SQUARELY ON

SADAT. CHINA CONTINUES BE DESCRIBED AS INTENT ON, AND
GEARING UP FOR WAR. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING WERE HIGHLIGHTS OF LECTURE:

--"FIRST" TASK OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY IS S ID TO BE
STRENGTHENING WORLD COMMUNIST SOLIDARITY, INTER-STATE AND
INTER-PARTY TIES OF COMMUNIST COMMUNITY AND "SOCIALIST
INTERNATIONALISM". SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON ECONOM-
IC ASPECTS, ESPECIALLY STEPPED UP ECONOMIC COOPERATION
AND "INTEGRATION". BLOC IS DESCRIBED AS WAXING IN
STRENGTH, PRODUCING ONE THIRD WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL GOODS,
AND NOW COMPETING MORE SUCCESSFULLY THAN "CAPITALIST"
COUNTRIES AS SHOWN BY OVERALL SIX PERCENT GROWTH RATE IN
1977 VERSUS ONLY TWO PERCENT OVERALL FOR "CAPITALISTS."

--DETENTE IS PEGGED NOTCH LOWER AS "PRIMARY TASK", AND
DESCRIBED AS UNDER HEAVY ATTACK IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES
BY "COLD WARRIORS" WITH ALLEGED SOVIET THREAT AND VIOLA-
TION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLE TARGETS. SOVIET
"DISARMAMENT" INITIATIVES CONTRASTED WITH GROWING WESTERN
ARMS TRADE (U.S. ARMS SALES WERE SAID BE UP IN 1977 BY
13 BILLION OVER 1966) AND CREATION NEW ARMS SYSTEMS BY
WEST.

--PRESIDENT CARTER: PERSONAL HANDLING OF PRESIDENT
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PAGE 03 LENING 00989 01 OF 03 060630Z

CARTER SEEMED TO US TOUGHER THAN AT ANY TIME IN PAST
WEEKS. LECTURER AT ONE POINT QUOTED FRG PRESS TO EFFECT
THAT PRESIDENT IS "BULL IN CHINA SHOP" AND, IN DISCUSSING
SALT, LEFT IMPRESSION OF INDECISIVE CARTER LEADERSHIP.
IN FOLLOW-ON Q'S AND A'S PRESIDENT CARTER'S NORTH CAROLINA
SPEECH DESCRIBED AS "UNHELPFUL" FOR HALTING ARMS RACE AND
"INTERFERING" WITH PROGRESS DETENTE BUT AS NOT "CANCELLING
EVERYTHING POSITIVE" IN U.S.-USSR RELATIONS WHICH NOW
BUILT ON SUCH SOLID BASIS AS NOT TO BE EASILY DESTROYED.

--SALT: AUDIENCE AGAIN TOLD THAT THERE WAS "PROGRESS" IN
SALT TALKS WITH "SOME DETAILS" STILL TO BE RESOLVED, BUT
ONLY SPECIFIC EXAMPLE GIVEN WAS BACKFIRE--CRUISE
MISSILE TRADE-OFF. THERE WAS NO MENTION AT ALL OF
POSSIBLE VANCE-GROMYKO MEETING ON SALT. BRUNT OF
PRESENTATION WAS TAKEN UP WITH DESCRIPTION OF
U.S. DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY OVER SALT, IN WHICH "COLD
WARRIORS LED BY SENATOR JACKSON" DESCRIBED
AS WAGING HEAVY CAMPAIGN TO DISRUPT SIGNING OF AGREEMENT,
FEATURE OF WHICH IS USE OF "SENSATIONAL ARTICLES" ALLEG-
ING THAT U.S. GIVING IN TO SOVIET PRESSURE AND THAT IT
UNREASONABLE TO SIGN SINCE USSR DOES NOT FULFILL ITS

AGREEMENTS. (NEEDLESS TO SAY, LECTURER ASSURED AUDIENCE SOVIET "ALWAYS" FULFILL "ALL" AGREEMENTS). OPPONENTS ALSO SAID BE TRYING TO GET SOVIETS TO CEASE THEIR "SUPPORT" FOR ETHIOPIA AS CONDITION FOR SIGNING. AUDIENCE TOLD THAT ONE THIRD (SIC) SENATE NEEDED FOR APPROVAL, THAT HEAVY "BRAIN WASHING" GOING ON, AND THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION ITSELF AFFECTED BY CONTROVERSY AND UNCERTAIN OF OUTCOME. SOVIETS DESCRIBED AS READY TO SIGN AGREEMENT, BUT ONLY ON BASIS "KEY STARTING POINTS" OF EQUALITY AND FIDELITY TO PRINCIPLES OF SOVIET SECURITY.

-NEUTRON BOB AND NON-PROLIFERATION: LECTURER SAID US-

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PAGE 01 LENING 00989 02 OF 03 070402Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 LENINGRAD 00989

SOVIET TALKS ON NON-PROLIFERATION ARE PROCEEDING BUT EMPHASIZED THAT SOVIET GOAL EXTENDS BEYOND NON-PROLIFERATION TO HALT OF NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS. THIS IS GIVEN AS RATIONALE FOR SOVIETS "MASSIVE CAMPAIGN" AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB WHICH LECTURER GAVE FULL CREDIT FOR "DOUBLE DELAY" IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S SIGNING OF PRODUCTION GO-AHEAD, (DESPITE FACT THAT FUNDING ALREADY APPROVED BY SENATE IN JULY 1977) AND DECISION OF DENMARK, NORWAY, HOLLAND AND ICELAND NOT TO ACCEPT NEUTRON BOMBS ON THEIR SOIL. PRESIDENT CARTER DESCRIBED AS UNDER

PRESSURE "RESOLVE PROBLEM" BEFORE MID-MAY WHEN U.N.
DISARMAMENT TALKS BEGIN. LECTURER TOLD AUDIENCE THAT
IF U.S. GOES AHEAD WITH NEUTRON BOMB PRODUCTION SOVIETS
WOULD "HAVE TO DO THE SAME" AND CITED "PRAVDA" TO EFFECT
THAT SOVIET SCIENTISTS ALREADY HAVE WARNED CARTER
THAT SOVIETS HAVE TECHNOLOGY TO "PRODUCE ANY WEAPON." AS
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PAGE 02 LENING 00989 02 OF 03 070402Z

CURIOSITY, IN Q'S AND A'S, AUDIENCE TOLD THAT NEUTRON
BOMB ALREADY TESTED BY U.S. ON MONKEYS WHICH IS REASON
BEHIND ALLEGED INDIAN "BAN" ON FUTURE SALES OF MONKEYS
ABROAD.

--MBFR TALKS DESCRIBED AS "LACKING IN SUBSTANTIAL
PROGRESS" DUE UNACCEPTABLE DEMAND THAT WARSAW PACT MAKE
FORCE CUTS WHICH THREE TIMES GREATER THAN NATO'S.
LECTURER VENTURED NO PREDICTION ON FUTURE PROGRESS OF
TALKS.

--BELGRADE CONFERENCE CONTINUES BE DESCRIBED AS
SOVIET "VICTORY" WHICH ILLUSTRATED DIFFERENT APPROACH OF
USSR AND CAPITALISTS TO FINAL ACT AND CONTINUING EFFORTS
"STRENGTHEN" EUROPEAN SECURITY. USSR SAID TO HAVE
FULFILLED ALL POSITIONS FINAL ACT BY INCORPORATING THEM
INTO NEW CONSTITUTION AND TO BE TAKING LEAD ON PROPOSING
NEW SUGGESTIONS. U.S. PORTRAYED AS DOING EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO "CREATE CONFLICT SITUATION" BY USING FINAL
ACT TO ATTACK COMMUNIST SYSTEM AND INTERFERE IN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. SOVIET NEGOTIATORS
DESCRIBED AS FULLY PREPARED FOR U.S. TACTIC OF CONCEN-
TRATING ON "HUMAN RIGHTS AND ONLY HUMAN RIGHTS" AND TAKING
FIGHT TO THE "CAPITALISTS" BY ILLUSTRATING VIOLATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS IN WEST. COMMUNIST PROPOSALS OF OVER 100
"SERIOUS SUGGESTIONS" CONTRASTED WITH NATO TABLING OF
THIRTY SUGGESTIONS "NOT SINGLE ONE OF WHICH HAD ANYTHING
TO DO WITH DETENTE OR FURTHERING HELSINKI ACCORDS." IN
CONTRAST TO PAST WEEKS, AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG IGNORED WITH
UNNAMED "U.S. REPRESENTATIVES" TAKING ALL THE SHELLACKING.

--ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA CONFLICT TOUCHED ON ONLY BRIEFLY.
AUDIENCE WAS, HOWEVER, WARNED THAT, DESPITE SOMALIA
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PAGE 03 LENING 00989 02 OF 03 070402Z

DEFEAT AND WITHDRAWAL, SERIOUS PROBLEMS REMAIN. SOMALIA
DESCRIBED AS HAVING "NOT YET" GIVEN UP TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
TO PART KENYA, ETHIOPIA AND DJIBOUTI, NOR READY TO CARRY

ON RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS ON BASIS PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BOTH OF WHICH IT "MUST DO." LECTURER ALSO SAID "IMPERIALISTS" CONTINUING TO INTERFERE IN ETHIOPIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND SUPPORTING SEPARATISTS GROUPS WITH PURPOSE "GRABBING" PART OF ETHIOPIA. IMPLICATION WAS THAT BALL GAME IS NOT YET OVER FOR SOVIETS IN ETHIOPIA.

--MIDDLE EAST SITUATION IS DESCRIBED AS "WORSENING" WITH BLAME LAID SOLIDLY ON SADAT. ISRAELI LEBANON INVASION IS DESCRIBED AS "FIRST PROOF" OF EFFECT OF SADAT'S DIVISION OF ARABS AND WEAKENING OF ARAB WORLD. AUDIENCE WAS TOLD THAT ISRAELI TROOPS USED IN LEBANON WERE WITHDRAWN FROM SINAI. IN ADDITION, SADAT'S POLICIES CREDITED WITH PUTTING OFF GENERAL CONFERENCE ON MIDEAST TO "UNDETERMINED PERIOD" AND DELAYING MIDEAST SOLUTION WHICH ONLY POSSIBLE ON BASIS PRINCIPLES LAID OUT BY SOVIETS. REMAINDER OF LENGTHY COMMENT WAS BITTER DIATRIBE AGAINST SADAT WHO RIDICULED AS "HERO OF THE YEAR" AND ALLEGED TO BE MORE IN U.S. POCKET EVEN THAN ISRAEL WHICH "51ST STATE."

SADAT INITIATIVES AGAINST SOVIETS SINCE 1972 WERE DETAILED FOR AUDIENCE AND SUMMED UP AS HAVING FULFILLED "ALL DEMANDS OF IMPERIALISTS." SADAT'S INTERNAL SUPPORT IS ATTRIBUTED TO PROGRAM OF SYSTEMATIC LIES TO POPULATION, BREEDING HATRED OF OTHER ARABS AND INFLATED EXPECTATIONS OF MATERIAL FRUITS IF PEACE WITH ISRAEL ACHIEVED.

--CHINA: NEW CHINA DOMESTIC POLICY INITIATIVES CONTINUE BE DESCRIBED AS AIMED AT RAISING MILITARY POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC BASE. ULTIMATE AIM IS SAID TO BE HEGEMONY FIRST IN ASIA THEN IN WORLD. IN FUTURE STRUGGLE WITH USSR CHINA DESCRIBED AS DEFINITELY PLANNING ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 LENING 00989 02 OF 03 070402Z

SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION OF U.S. CONTINUING ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN AND ESPECIALLY POLICY OF EXTENDING OBLIGATORY MILITARY SERVICE FROM 3 TO 5 YEARS WHILE

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PAGE 01 LENING 00989 03 OF 03 060639Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 03 OF 03 LENINGRAD 00989

CONTINUING ACCEPT MILITARY VOLUNTEERS SEEN AS PARTICULARLY
OMINOUS. SOVIET "PROPOSALS FOR NORMALIZATION" CONTRASTED
WITH CHINESE CONDITIONS INCLUDING SOVIETS ABANDONING
MONGOLIA, GIVING UP "HUGE" AMOUNTS SOVIET TERRITORY,
WITHDRAWING THEIR TROOPS FROM USSR-CHINA BORDER,
RENOUNCING PARTY DIRECTIVES ADOPTED AFTER 20TH PARTY
CONGRESS, AND--THE FINAL BLOW--APOLOGIZING TO CHINA.

3. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS PETROVSKIY ADDED FOLLOWING:

--RE DELAYS IN BREZHNEV TRIP TO FRG, AUDIENCE TOLD THIS
SEEN AS WORKING TRIP AND NOT ALL DETAILS YET READY
BUT TRIP "WILL TAKE PLACE." RUECKERT

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